

19 November 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 19 November 1965

[redacted] of ORR gave a background briefing on Soviet submarine construction.

DD/I noted the work done by an informal interagency group dealing with possible courses of U. S. nonmilitary actions to reduce the extent of foreign shipping to North Vietnam. A draft NSAM is being prepared which would in effect deny any non-Communist ships the right to carry U. S. goods/in trade with NVN. The Agency has no direct role to play in this matter other than having supplied the basic data on shipping, and it was agreed that the Agency will concur with the draft NSAM.

[redacted]

DD/I noted for the record that it has been a long-established tradition for [redacted] to conduct periodic meetings with [redacted]. The meetings deal with an exchange of views on [redacted] and the like.

R. J. Smith reported the latest casualty figures in the continuing fighting in and around Plei Mei. U. S. KIA is 250 with 358 WIA. Communist casualties are 1209 dead and 19 captured. MACV has denied newspaper stories about major Communist ambushes of American forces.

Smith noted this morning's CIB item concerning Chinese Communist political indoctrination measures. He described the manner in which various sources are pieced together to do an item of this kind. (See Action 1)

ARMY review(s) completed.

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de Silva referred to the continuing buildup of the road network in Laos used by the Communists for supply and infiltration into SVN and the recent doubling of ChiCom logistic capabilities in the area from Nanning to the NVN border. He thought it desirable to issue a special report on the implications of this as it reflects NVN intentions toward SVN. There was some discussion of this and the consensus was that a special report would serve a useful purpose.

Houston noted a request from Senator Dodd's assistant for information on shipping to Haiphong. DCI's guidance was that we should exercise due care in responding to such requests from Congressmen who are not members of our subcommittees. Houston said he would try to avoid the issue but in the event the Senator personalizes the request, the White House staff will be checked before responding.

At DCI inquiry, DD/P said that COS, Saigon plans to meet and brief Representative Teague tomorrow.

Bross reported that he and Chief, FE had met with Bill Bundy yesterday to discuss lines of testimony. Bill Bundy will give to the PFIAB next week. He had been asked to appear before the Board as a consumer of intelligence relating to the Far East and China. Bundy has met and had conversations with Clark Clifford following the latter's recent visit to the Far East. Bundy believes White House desires for detailed and pinpointed intelligence on China and NVN are unrealistic and he intends to make this point.

At DCI inquiry, Bross explained the status of material being prepared for the DCI's use before the PFIAB next week.

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[redacted] noted that the [redacted] operation is at hand and he recommended DCI's approval of a proposed [redacted] the proposal is currently in the DCI's office.

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[redacted] explained that a good deal of work was in train in connection with the next meeting of the NRO Executive Committee on

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23 November. He also reported that arrangements are being attempted to get a special 303 meeting on 30 November to deal with [redacted]

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[redacted]

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Executive Director reported on a BOB cutback in the number of additional personnel we had requested for new programs. The BOB cutback is said to have Presidential approval. The question of allocation of the additional personnel permitted by BOB is under consideration.

DDCI reported on a movie he had seen made by Radio Liberty. He suggested that Executive Director and PPB arrange to see this movie and make a judgment [redacted]

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[redacted]

ACTIONS:

1. Noting the China monthly report prepared by DD/I and the CIB item concerning Chinese political indoctrination, the DCI requested that the DD/I arrange a resume of the internal situation in China for use by DD/P and FE Division and PPB as substantive backup for budgetary presentation, [redacted] and as a means to generate support for our China programs. (DD/I - - 1 December)

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[redacted]

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3. DCI requests information on the background of the Washington Post article this morning [redacted]

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[redacted] indicating a leak of the transcript of certain hearings held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

4. DCI gave DD/I an article on social controls in China as it appears in a Navy periodical. He asked for DD/I's assessment of the piece. (DD/I -- in the course of the day)

5. Noting evidence of Communist espionage near [redacted] used by U. S. strike forces, DCI asked for recommendations as to what should be done to eliminate this espionage. Consideration is to be given to inducing [redacted] help with this problem. (DD/P -- 26 November)

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[redacted]
L. K. White

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